



“The American West”

SELECTIONS FROM THE ANSCHUTZ COLLECTION
AND THE CORCORAN COLLECTION

The Corcoran Gallery of Art/March 25-April 26, 1981

The Corcoran Gallery

When Thomas Moran first showed his paintings of the Yellowstone to Eastern audiences he found that many people could not really believe what they were looking at. How could anyone paint rocks that were blue and red and yellow, or depict landscapes so grand that they competed with sunrises for the viewer's attention? Surely, these paintings were visions, people said, inventions of Mr. Moran's creative mind.

But no, the artistic discovery of the American West expanded the visual vocabulary of everyone. Although the tall mountains, broad plains, incredible colors, strange Indian customs, and life-styles of pioneer settlers simply did not fit into the lexicon of images from our European tradition, two forces made them art. The first was the incessant search for a national identity, and the second was America's passion for novelty. The West was uniquely American and it proved to be an almost endless treasure trove of new discoveries. Thus, paintings of the West became both symbols for the nation as a whole as well as artistic probes into the depth and variety of experiences which the nation offered.

Traditionally, the West in art has meant the lore which was popularized in the dime novels of the second half of the nineteenth century and the motion pictures of our own day. In this exhibition, however, the definition is broader. Some of the paintings go beyond the cowboy and Indian scenes to include

"modern" western cities as well as abstractions derived from western views. In addition, since the West as a place of pioneer settlement was continually redefined, a few views of pioneer areas in what we now think of as the eastern section of the country are also included. This living definition has brought a greater sense of liveliness and variety to a subject which is already rich in diversity.

The Trustees of the Corcoran Gallery of Art collected American paintings long before most other patrons would even take a second look. Naturally, Western paintings and sculptures were among the acquisitions and, as a result, the Corcoran owns a small but splendid sampling of Western art. This includes four of Albert Bierstadt's works, one of which depicts a lofty peak south of Mt. Whitney in the Sierra Nevada range with the title *Mount Corcoran*!

It is a pleasure for the Trustees to welcome paintings from the collection of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Anschutz to the museum. Joined in this exhibition by works from the Corcoran, we have a meld of a private collector and a private gallery of art. In addition, the Trustees deeply appreciate Mr. Anschutz's generosity in making *The American West* possible at this time.

For all new discoverers of our national heritage, this show will be a surprise; and for those who may have forgotten the West, a second look should bring back that pleasant feeling of wonder.

Peter C. Marzio
Director
Corcoran Gallery and School of Art



INDIAN WARRIOR
Phimister Proctor

On the Cover:
RETURN OF A BLACKFOOT WAR PARTY
Frederic Remington

The Anschutz Collection

I am pleased to have been invited to exhibit a selection of paintings from the Anschutz Collection at the Corcoran Gallery of Art. This private institution, founded in 1869, is the oldest fine arts museum in Washington, D.C. It is a tribute to William Corcoran that he had the foresight to enthusiastically collect American art when the collecting emphasis of his contemporaries was on European Academic painting. Over the years, the Corcoran Gallery has hosted many major loan exhibitions. the Anschutz collection takes great pride in joining this distinguished company.

I have always loved western history and this interest has translated itself into portraits, landscapes and genre paintings of the American West. I believe that it is important to emphasize the significance of the West throughout the years of exploration and development—years of excitement, vitality, and imagination. It is equally important to note that in the

process of documenting this westward expansion, the artists involved in this experience created a unique situation in which the development of American art was simultaneously documented.

The painters who accompanied the first explorers in the earliest years of the last century found their greatest market to be not only New York, Boston, Washington, and Philadelphia but also the major cities of Europe. People from both continents were hungry for news and pictures from the American western frontier.

The Hudson River School painters were drawn to the West where they painted small, controlled landscapes. Again, their greatest market was found in the cities of the East and in Europe. The Romantics painted monumental canvases—craggy mountains with swirling clouds above were their milieu. These paintings received accolades in the most important museums and galleries of the time.

The closing years of the nineteenth century brought the illustrators who drew the deeds of the cowboy hero

—sometimes larger than life—for the readers of *Collier's*, *Harper's Weekly* and *Saturday Evening Post*. The studies made for these illustrations and the major oils executed by these artists commanded high prices even during the artists' lifetime.

The early part of the twentieth century saw the flowering of possibly the most important movement in Western American art, the Taos-Santa Fe School of painting. These small New Mexico villages were like magnets to Eastern artists with world reputations who came here to execute more scholarly, more sophisticated paintings than their predecessors. They came to this dusty, sparsely populated, barren land because the subjects were "new" and the light was unsurpassed. The uncomplicated life-style these artists found in the Southwest allowed them to concentrate on their art and to enjoy the comradeship of fellow artists. The Taos-Santa Fe School flourished until the beginning of World War II and some artists, such as Georgia O'Keeffe, have remained to the present day.

I have attempted to gather good examples of each

artist's work and, thus, to put together a comprehensive survey collection which reflects well more than a century of Western history and art as seen through the eyes of the artist. The styles and media differ, but, to the viewer, the message is still the same: the West is a beautiful, vigorous, still untamed land whose spirit of adventure speaks to all. Unquestionably, the course of American art has been altered by its "Western experience."

Philip F. Anschutz

CHILDREN OF THE MOUNTAIN
Thomas Moran





- 1. George CATLIN (1794-1872)**
Mystery Lodge
 oil on canvas
 23 x 28 inches (58.4 x 71.1 cm.)
 Anschutz Collection

- 2. Asher B. DURAND (1796-1886)**
Indian Rescue
 oil on canvas
 45 x 36 inches (114.3 x 91.5 cm.)
 Anschutz Collection

BULL DANCE
 George Catlin

- 3. Alfred Jacob MILLER (1810-1874)**
The Buffalo Hunt
 oil on canvas
 30 x 50 inches (76.2 x 127 cm.)
 Anschutz Collection

- 4. William Tylee RANNEY (1813-1857)**
Prairie Burial
 oil on canvas
 14 x 20 inches (35.5 x 50.8 cm.)
 Anschutz Collection

- 5. Albertus del Orient BROWERE (1814-1887)**
Goldminers
 oil on canvas
 29 x 36 inches (73.7 x 91.5 cm.)
 Anschutz Collection

- 6. John Mix STANLEY (1814-1872)**
The Disputed Shot
 oil on canvas
 36 x 29 inches (91.4 x 73.6 cm.)
 Gift of William Wilson
 Corcoran
 Corcoran Gallery of Art

**7. Arthur Fitzwilliam TAIT
(1819-1905)**

On the Warpath
oil on canvas
33 x 44 inches
(83.8 x 111.6 cm.)
Anschutz Collection

8. James WALKER (1819-1889)

California Vaqueros
oil on canvas
31 x 46 inches
(78.7 x 116.8 cm.)
Anschutz Collection

**9. George Douglass BREWERTON
(1820-1901)**

Crossing the Rocky Mountains
oil on canvas
30 x 44¼ inches
(76.2 x 112.2 cm.)
Gift of William Wilson
Corcoran
Corcoran Gallery of Art

10. Albert BIERSTADT (1830-1902)

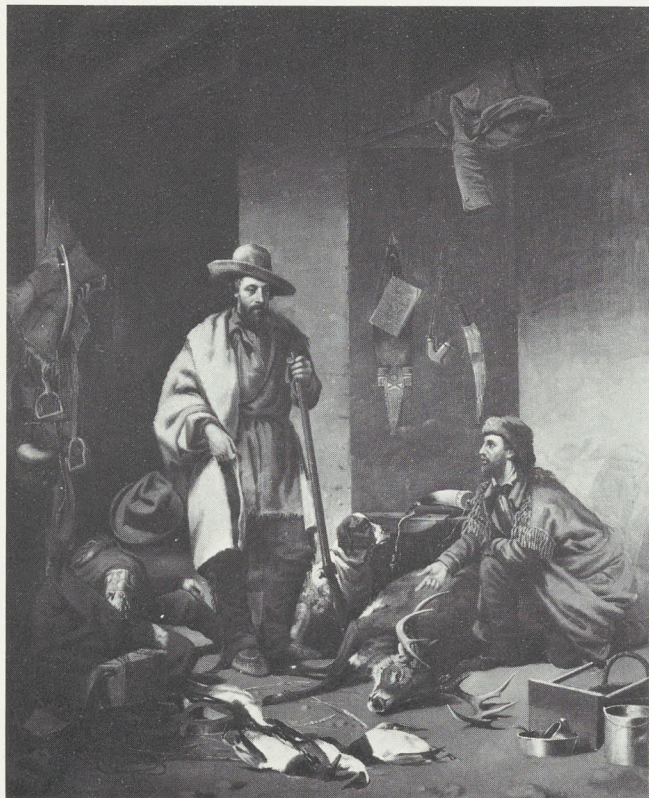
*The Buffalo Trail: Impending
Storm*
oil on canvas
29½ x 49½ inches
(74.8 x 125.6 cm.)
Through a gift of Mr. and Mrs.
Lansdell K. Christie
Corcoran Gallery of Art

11. Albert BIERSTADT (1830-1902)

*Mountainous Landscape by
Moonlight*
oil on canvas
30 1/3 x 50 1/3 inches
(77 x 127.8 cm.)
Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Harry L.
Tepper
Corcoran Gallery of Art



MOUNT CORCORAN
Albert Bierstadt



THE DISPUTED SHOT
John Mix Stanley

12. Albert BIERSTADT (1830-1902)

Mount Corcoran

61 x 96 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches

(154.9 x 224.3 cm.)

Corcoran Gallery of Art

13. Albert BIERSTADT (1830-1902)

The Last of the Buffalo

71 $\frac{1}{4}$ x 119 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches

(181 x 303.2 cm.)

Gift of Mrs. Albert Bierstadt

Corcoran Gallery of Art

14. Samuel COLMAN (1832-1920)

Half Dome and Royal Arches,

Yosemite from Glacier Point

watercolor

9 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13 $\frac{3}{8}$ inches (24.1 x 34 cm.)

Through a gift of Ralph C.

Johnson

Corcoran Gallery of Art

15. Louis MAURER (1832-1932)

Buffalo Bill Fighting Indians

oil on canvas

27 x 36 inches (68.5 x 91.4 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

16. Thomas MORAN (1837-1926)

Children of the Mountain

oil on canvas

62 x 55 inches (158 x 132.5 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

**17. Ralph Albert BLAKELOCK
(1847-1919)**

Indian Encampment

oil on canvas

19 x 26 $\frac{3}{8}$ inches

(48.3 x 66.9 cm.)

Gift of Mr. and Mrs. J. C.

Stotlar

Corcoran Gallery of Art

**18. Carl William HAHN
(1840-1890/1)**

California Stage Halt, 1875

oil on canvas

28 x 40 inches

(71.1 x 101.6 cm.)

Anschutz Collection



OFF THE RANGE
Frederic Remington

19. Lucian POWELL (1846-1930)

*Afterglow, Grand Canyon,
Arizona*
watercolor
20 x 30 inches (50.8 x 76.2 cm.)
Corcoran Gallery of Art

20. Henry FARNY (1847-1916)

The Indian Bear Hunter
gouache and watercolor
10¼ x 6 inches (26 x 15.2 cm.)
Gift of Hamilton Robinson
Corcoran Gallery of Art

21. Henry FARNY (1847-1916)

Indian Encampment
gouache
9½ x 14 inches
(24.1 x 35.5 cm.)
Anschutz Collection

22. Chester LOOMIS (1852-1924)

Antelope Hunters, Texas
oil on canvas
23 x 37 inches (58.4 x 94 cm.)
Anschutz Collection

**23. Joseph Henry SHARP
(1859-1953)**

*Winter Encampment
on the Plains*
oil on canvas
24 x 36 inches (61 x 91.4 cm.)
Anschutz Collection

**24. Frederic REMINGTON
(1861-1924)**

*Return of a Blackfoot
War Party*
oil on canvas
28 x 50 inches (71.1 x 127 cm.)
Anschutz Collection



TAOS PLAZA,
WINTER 1921
E. Martin Hennings

CHAMA RUNNING RED
John Sloan



25. **Frederic REMINGTON**
(1861-1924)

Turn Him Loose, Bill!

oil on canvas

25 x 33 inches (63.5 x 83.4 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

26. **Frederic REMINGTON**
(1861-1924)

*Off the Range (formerly
Coming through the Rye)*

bronze

28 x 20 x 28 inches

(71 x 50.8 x 71 cm.)

Corcoran Gallery of Art

27. **Frederic REMINGTON**
(1861-1924)

Mountain Man

bronze

28 inches (71 cm.)

Corcoran Gallery of Art

28. **Charles SCHREYVOGEL**
(1861-1912)

A Sharp Encounter

oil on canvas

25 x 34 inches (63.5 x 86.3 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

29. **Charles SCHREYVOGEL**
(1861-1912)

The Attackers

oil on canvas

25 x 34 inches (63.5 x 86.3 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

**30. Phimister PROCTOR
(1862-1950)**

Indian and Buffalo Group
bronze

18½ x 10 x 28½ inches
(47.1 x 25.4 x 72.3 cm.)
Corcoran Gallery of Art

**31. Phimister PROCTOR
(1862-1950)**

Indian Warrior
bronze

40 x 11 x 20 inches
(101.6 x 27.9 x 50.8 cm.)
Corcoran Gallery of Art

**32. Charles Marion RUSSELL
(1864-1926)**

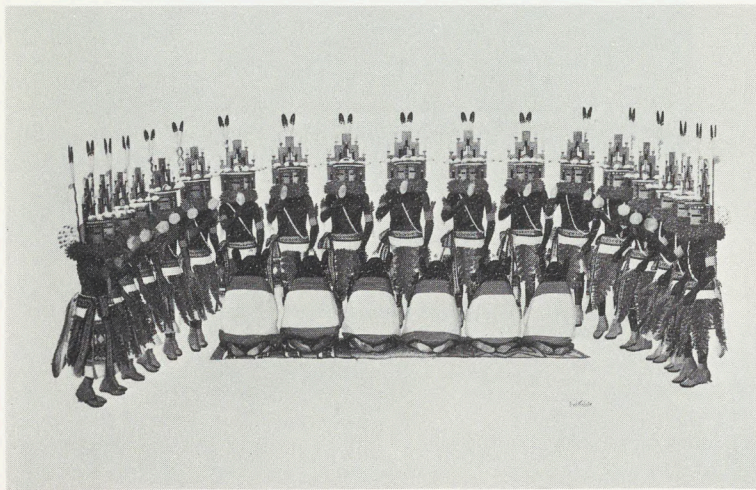
The Scouts
oil on canvas
24 x 36 inches (60.9 x 91.4 cm.)
Anschutz Collection

33. E. Irving COUSE (1866-1936)

Moki Snake Dance
oil on canvas
36 x 48 inches
(91.4 x 121.7 cm.)
Anschutz Collection

34. Albert L. GROLL (1866-1952)

No-Man's Land, Arizona
oil on canvas
40½ x 51¼ inches
(102.8 x 130.2 cm.)
Corcoran Gallery of Art



HOPI MASKED DANCE
Fred Kabotie

TURN HIM LOOSE, BILL!
Frederic Remington

35. **Herman Atkins MACNEIL**
(1866-1947)

The Sun Vow

bronze

71 x 28 $\frac{1}{8}$ x 32 $\frac{3}{8}$ inches

(271.7 x 71.3 x 82.8 cm.)

Corcoran Gallery of Art

36. **John MARIN (1870-1953)**

Canyon of the Hondo,
New Mexico

watercolor

15 x 20 inches (38.1 x 50.8 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

37. **Joseph A. IMHOF (1871-1951)**

The Camoufleurs

oil on canvas

31 x 47 inches

(78.8 x 109.4 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

38. **John SLOAN (1871-1951)**

Chama Running Red

oil on canvas

30 x 40 inches

(76.2 x 101.6 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

39. **Ernest L. BLUMENSCHNEIN**
(1874-1960)

Sangre de Cristo Mountains

oil on canvas

50 x 60 inches (127 x 152.4 cm.)

Anschutz Collection



**40. Frank Tenney JOHNSON
(1874-1939)**

Riders of the Dawn

oil on canvas

48 x 60 inches

(121.9 x 152.4 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

**41. Frank Tenney JOHNSON
(1874-1939)**

Night at the Trading Post

oil on canvas

36 x 46 inches

(76.2 x 106.9 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

42. Walter UFER (1876-1936)

Oferta para San Esquipula

oil on canvas

25 x 30 inches (63.5 x 76.2 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

43. Marsden HARTLEY (1877-1943)

New Mexico Recollections, #15

oil on canvas

23 x 41 inches

(58.4 x 104.1 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

44. B. J. O. NORDFELT (1878-1955)

Corn Dance, San Ildefonso

oil on canvas

34 x 43 inches

(86.4 x 109.2 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

45. George BELLOWS (1882-1925)

Sanctuario

oil on board

20 x 24 inches (50.8 x 60.9 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

**46. Newell Convers WYETH
(1882-1945)**

Blue Lock, the Queen

oil on canvas

32 x 40 inches

(81.2 x 101.6 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

47. Victor HIGGINS (1884-1949)

Taos Pueblo

oil on canvas

52 x 56 inches

(132 x 142.2 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

48. Leon KROLL (1884-1974)

Santa Fe Hills

oil on canvas

26 x 32 inches (66 x 81.3 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

49. Paul MANSHIP (1885-1966)

Indian Running with Dog

bronze

21⁵/₈ x 32¹/₈ x 7³/₄ inches

(54.8 x 81.6 x 19.6 cm.)

Bequest of James Parmelee

Corcoran Gallery of Art

**50. E. Martin HENNINGS
(1886-1956)**

Taos Plaza, Winter 1921

oil on canvas

34 x 40 inches

(86.3 x 101.6 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

51. Georgia O'KEEFFE (b. 1887)

Red Hills, Grey Sky

oil on canvas

14 x 20 inches (35.6 x 50.8 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

52. Georgia O'KEEFFE (b. 1887)

Another Church, Hernandez,

New Mexico

oil on canvas

10 x 24 inches (25.3 x 60.8 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

53. Georgia O'KEEFFE (b. 1887)

Wall with Green Door

oil on canvas

30 x 47 $\frac{7}{8}$ inches

(76.2 x 121.5 cm.)

Gift of the Woodward

Foundation

Corcoran

Gallery of Art

54. Fred KABOTIE (b. 1900)

Hopi Masked Dance

gouache

19 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 30 inches

(49.6 x 76.2 cm.)

Gift of Miss Amelia Elizabeth

White

Corcoran Gallery of Art

55. MA PE WI (1902-1973)

Deer Hunters

gouache

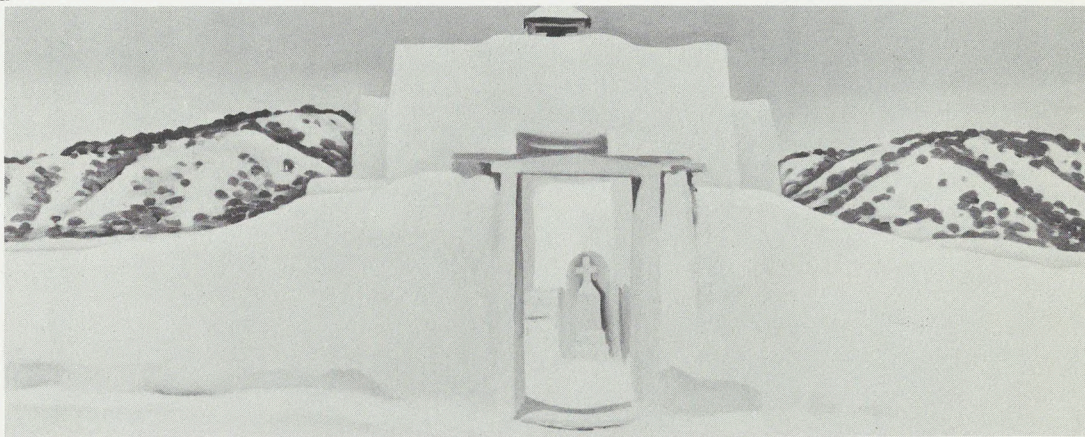
15 x 20 inches (38.1 x 50.8 cm.)

Gift of Miss Amelia Elizabeth

White

Corcoran Gallery of Art

ANOTHER CHURCH,
HERNANDEZ,
NEW MEXICO
Georgia O'Keeffe





THE LAST OF THE BUFFALO
Albert Bierstadt

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